

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

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FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8438

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 2392

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: US, CI, OAS, PFOR

SUBJ: HUERTA ON MFM WASHINGTON AND OASGA ATLANTA

1. SUMMARY. CHILEAN FONMIN HUERTA HAS EXPRESSED TO ME HIS SATISFACTION WITH WASHINGTON MFM DIALOGUE AND ADMIRATION FOR ACTION THERE BY SECRETARY KISSINGER. HE SEES THIS SERIES OF MEETINGS AS WAY OF GETTING AROUND INTERMINABLE TALK IN OAS. ON CUBA HE SAID GOC WILLING GO ALONG WITH WHATEVER LATAM CONSENSUS DEVELOPS REGARDING WHETHER OR NOT DISCUSS, ALTHOUGH GOC FIRMLY BELIEVES INTERVENTIONIST ACTIVITY BY CUBA IS UNACCEPTABLE AND WHATEVER CASTRO SAYS SHOULD NOT BE ACCEPTED AS FACE VALUE. END SUM.

2. I CALLED ON FON MIN ISMAEL HUERTA MAY 2 PRINCIPALLY TO DISCUSS HIS REACTIONS TO WASHINGTON AND ATLANTA MEETINGS. HUERTA AGREED WITH USG EVALUATION, ON WHICH I EXPANDED, THAT MFM WAS OF VALUE AS NEW MECHANISM IN DEVELOPING DIALOGUE BETWEEN US AND LATAMS AND THAT WHILE ADMITTEDLY MUCH REMAINS TO BE DONE MUCH WAS ACCOMPLISHED AT TLATELOLCO AND WASHINGTON. HUERTA THOUGHT TOO SHORT A TIME HAD ELAPSED BETWEEN TLATELOLCO AND WASHINGTON MEETINGS FOR MUCH TO HAVE HAPPENED AND THAT THIS SHORTNESS OF TIME WAS LARGELY RESPONSIBLE FOR SURFACING OF SUBJECTS OF LESSER LONG-TERM IMPORTANCE, SUCH AS COLOMBIA'S HAVING RAISED TARIFF PROBLEMS ABOUT FLOWERS, COSTA RICA AND OTHER

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ABOUT US IMPORTATION REACTION TO EXPORT TAX ON BANANAS, AND PANAMA

ABOUT ACCEPTABILITY TO US SENATE OF WHAT IS DEVELOPING REGARDING CANAL. HE THOUGHT SCHEDULING OF NEXT MFM IN 1975 IN BUENOS AIRES WAS ABOUT RIGHT IN TERMS LENGTH OF TIME BETWEEN SUCH MEETINGS. HE WAS FRANK IN EXPRESSING HIS ADMIRATION FOR MANNER IN WHICH SECRETARY KISSINGER MET THESE IMMEDIATE PROBLEMS, ESPECIALLY HIS INSISTENCE ON LEAVING QUESTION OF SENATE MAJORITY SUPPORT OR LACK THEREOF FOR PANAMA CANAL DEVELOPMENTS TO USG AS AN INTERNAL POLITICAL MATTER OF NO LEGITIMATE CONCERN TO FONMINS.

3. AS FOR TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY ITEM AT MFM, HUERTA SAID THAT AS SPOKESMAN HE HAD HAD TO CONVEY CONSENSUS OF LATAMS THAT FORMATION OF COMMISSION WAS UNDESIRE. CHILE AND HE PERSONALLY WOULD CONTINUE TAKING SPECIAL INTEREST IN THIS SUBJECT, ALTHOUGH CONCEIVABLY AT NEXT MEETING CHILE MIGHT NO LONGER BE SELECTED AS SPOKESMAN. HE ONCE AGAIN COMPLIMENTED SKILL OF SECRETARY KISSINGER AND HIS SUPPORTERS, INCLUDING LUIGI EINAUDI AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY KUBISCH, NOTING FORMATION OF WORKING GROUP TO CONSIDER QUESTION OF FORMATION OF COMMISSION. BRAZIL WAS SUGGESTED AS VENUE FOR NEXT WORKING GROUP MEETING ON THIS ITEM AND CHILE INDICATED WILLINGNESS ATTEND.

4. CHILE INTENDS PARTICIPATE ALSO IN WORKING GROUP ON MULTI-NATIONAL CORPORATIONS, HUERTA INDICATED. HE OPPOSED ORIGINAL SUGGESTION THAT WORKING GROUP MEET NEXT IN US AS HE CONSIDERED THIS INAPPROPRIATE, BUT WAS WILLING GO ANYWHERE ELSE FOR THIS PURPOSE. HE UNDERSTOOD COSTA RICA WAS AT PRESENT MOST LIKELY SITE FOR MEETING.

5. REGARDING CUBA ISSUE, HUERTA EXPRESSED UNHAPPINESS OF GOC THAT COLOMBIA, WITH SUBSEQUENT SUPPORT OF PERU, VENEZUELA AND MEXICO, HAD RAISED QUESTION AT MFM. CHILE'S EXPERIENCE WITH CUBAN INTERVENTIONISM IS SUCH THAT GOC CANNOT BE EXPECTED TO LOOK KINDLY ON LIFTING OF SANCTIONS AGAINST CUBA OR INCLUDING CUBA IN DEVELOPING DIALOGUE, HE CONTINUED. NEVERTHELESS, SHOULD CONSENSUS DEVELOP AMONG LATAMS THAT CUBA SHOULD BE INVITED TO BUENOS AIRES NEXT YEAR, CHILE WOULD GO ALONG WITH IT, HE INDICATED.

6. HUERTA HAD LITTLE TO SAY REGARDING OASGA, BEYOND NOTING HOW MUCH SLOWER PROGRESS IS IN THAT FORUM AS COMPARED WITH MFM. HE SAID HE SPOKE ON CHILE DURING GENERAL DEBATE FOR AN HOUR, CONFIDENTIAL

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ABOUT TWICE AS LONG AS HIS COLLEAGUES, ALONG LINES IN PREVIOUS SPEECH AT UNGA, PRINCIPALLY FOR PURPOSES OF RECORD SINCE THIS WAS FIRST OPPORTUNITY PRESENTED FOR CHILE IN THAT FORUM. NOTING CASTRO'S RECENT REPORTED REMARKS THAT CUBA UNINTERESTED IN REINTEGRATION INTO OAS BUT WILLING PARTICIPATE IN DIALOGUE INITIATED AT TLATELOLCO, HE EXPRESSED DOUBT THAT ANYTHING CASTRO SAYS SHOULD BE ACCEPTED UNCRITICALLY.

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